

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 00579 301323Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----088432 302025Z /46

R 301213Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0056
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T KUWAIT 0579

EXDIS

JERUSALEM FOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 00579 301323Z

TAGS: PGOV, XF, US, KU
SUBJ: SADAT VISIT TO U.S. AND STATUS OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE
NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 23436, (B) KUWAIT 445, (C) STATE 23799

1. I MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SABAH AL-AHMAD AL-SABAH

JANUARY 30 TO DISCUSS FORTHCOMING VISIT OF PRESIDENT SADAT TO U.S. FOREIGN MINISTER WAS NOT AVAILABLE PREVIOUS DAY DUE TO ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR SUNDAY CABINET MEETING. I CONVEYED POINTS PROVIDED IN REF. A, INCLUDING IN PARA 4, SINCE FONMIN WAS INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING HOW VISIT FITS INTO OVERALL PEACE EFFORT. I UNDERLINED THAT ARRANGMENT OF THIS VISIT WAS FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND CONCERN OF PRESIDENT CARTER IN PURSUIT OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE.

2. SABAH AL-AHMAD CONTINUED TO EXPRESS NEED TO GATHER ALL CONCERNED PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING USSR, INTO ONE MEETING, SUCH AS THE WALDHEIM PROPOSAL FOR A CONFERENCE AT THE UN OR A GENEVA CONFERENCE. FONMIN HAD FORMALLY ENDORSED SUCH A CONFERENCE IN MAY MEETING WITH HIM ONE WEEK AGO (REF. B). IN REPLY I DREW EXTENSIVELY ON ANSWER TO QUESTION RE POSSIBILITY OF GENEVA CONFERENCE WHICH HAL SAUNDERS HAD PROVIDED IN HIS BACKGROUND BRIEFING OF THE PRESS (REF. C).

3. SABAH AL-AHMAD SEEMED MUCH RELIEVED TO HEAR THIS REPLY, ALTHOUGH I EMPHASIZED THAT SUCH A BROAD "FORUM" WOULD HAVE TO COME AT THE END OF THE ROAD AFTER ALL PREVIOUS STEPS PROMOTING BROADER NEGOTIATION OF ALL THE ISSUES HAD BEEN TAKEN. HE APPARENTLY WAS CONCERNED THAT THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF A GENEVA CONFERENCE HAD BEEN LOST IN THE SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 00579 301323Z

CONTEXT OF THE SADAT INITIATIVE. THE FONMIN MAINTAINED THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE NO ARAB WOULD PERMIT SADAT TO SPEAK ON HIS BEHALF, EVEN IF HE AGREED WITH WHAT HE IS SAYING.

4. SINCE, UNLIKE OUR PREVIOUS MEETING, WHERE FONMIN WAS SPEAKING MORE FORMALLY IN ARABIC, WE DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE U.S. APPROACH TO THIS PROBLEM INFORMALLY IN ENGLISH. IN THE COURSE OF THIS DISCUSSION I URGED THAT THE GOK NOT TAKE ANY POSITION WHICH WOULD UNDERMINE SADAT'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACE, EVEN IF THE KUWAITIS DID NOT APPROVE OF THE METHOD OF HIS APPROACH. I ALSO URGED SABAH AL-AHMAD TO ENCOURAGE HIS ARAB BROTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. I SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF THE GOK COULD AT LEAST INDICATE IT SUPPORTED ALL EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE MIDDLE EAST PEACE. I ADDED THAT SADAT'S POSITION WILL INEVITABLY BE WEAKENED, BOTH INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY, IF HE RECEIVES NO INDICATION OF AT LEAST GENERAL SUPPORT FROM HIS ARAB BROTHERS.

5. FONMIN SAID HE COULD NOT RESPOND TO THAT QUESTION IN VIEW OF THE CARETAKER NATURE OF KUWAIT'S GOVERNMENT, BUT

MAINTAINED THAT THE GOK OFFICIAL POSITION HAD BEEN CAREFUL
NOT TO UNDERCUT SADAT. HE AGREED THAT SADAT NEEDED ASSISTANCE
AND CALLED UPON THE U.S. TO GIVE HIM ALL THE HELP POSSIBLE.
I OBSERVED THAT WE WERE INDEED DOING SO BUT THAT IT WAS
EQUALLY IMPORTANT FOR HIS ARAB BROTHERS TO SHOW SOME
SUPPORT FOR HIS PEACE EFFORTS. SABAH AL-AHMAD COMMENTED
THAT EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK WOULD ARRIVE IN
KUWAIT LATER THAT SAME DAY AND THAT HE WAS LOOKING
FORWARD TO HEARING FROM HIM ON THESE MATTERS.
MAESTRONE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PROGRESS REPORTS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUWAIT00579
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780044-0921
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978018/aaaaagtf.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0da6eae4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 23436, 78 KUWAIT 445, 78 STATE 23799
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3799866
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADAT VISIT TO U.S. AND STATUS OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PGOV, XF, US, KU, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0da6eae4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014